

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EA/J:DFLAMBERTSON

APPROVED BY EA/J:WCSHERMAN

EA/EX:ECHAMPAGNE (SUBS)

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R 062306Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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STADIS//////////

EA ONLY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MODE, JA

SUBJECT:MODE - BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

1. FOLLOWING IS DRAFT LETTER FROM DEPARTMENT TO INTERIOR DISAPPROVING BUREAU OF RECLAMATION PROPOSAL TO ASSIGN A RESIDENT CONTRACT INSPECTOR TO JAPAN. WE WOULD WELCOME ANY COMMENTS YOU MAY HAVE ON TEXT, AND ANY ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING RATIONALE (E.G. FROM STANDPOINT OF POLICY, PRACTICALITY, EFFECTIVENESS AND COST) FOR USE IN DEFENDING DECISION IN EVENT INTERIOR APPEALS.

2. QUOTE. THIS RESPONDS TO YOUR LETTER DATED MARCH 29, 1976, REQUESTING AUTHORITY TO ASSIGN A BUREAU OF RECLAMATION (BUREC) RESIDENT CONTRACT INSPECTOR IN JAPAN.

3. THE PROPOSAL HAS BEEN REVIEWED IN DETAIL BY THE U.S. DIPLOMATIC MISSION AT TOKYO AND BY THE BUREAU OF EAST ASIAN AFFAIRS (EA) IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE. DISCUSSIONS WITH THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF MISSION ON A RECENT VISIT TO THE

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DEPARTMENT CONFIRMED THAT THE EMBASSY HAS CONSIDERED BUT

OPPOSES ASSIGNMENT OF A RESIDENT INSPECTOR AND BELIEVES THAT CONTINUED TDY COVERAGE IS PREFERABLE. COSTS FOR TDY COVERAGE SEEM NO HIGHER AND POSSIBLY LOWER THAN COSTS FOR

RESIDENT COVERAGE, ESPECIALLY SINCE A BUREC INSPECTOR IS UNLIKELY TO SATISFY VERY MANY OF THE INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS OF THE BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION. MOREOVER, THE EMBASSY IS CONCERNED TO LIMIT AND IF POSSIBLE REDUCE THE NUMBER OF AMERICAN OFFICIALS PERMANENTLY ASSIGNED IN JAPAN. THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EAST ASIAN AFFAIRS SUPPORTS THE EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT.

4. THIS DECISION, REACHED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE MODE PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES DATED MAY 23, 1975, RESULTS IN DISAPPROVAL OF THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION REQUEST TRANSMITTED IN YOUR LETTER OF MARCH 29. IF YOUR DEPARTMENT WISHES TO APPEAL THE DECISION, THE APPEAL SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SENIOR MANAGEMENT REVIEW GROUP (HONORABLE LAWRENCE S. EAGLEBURGER, DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR MANAGEMENT). UNQUOTE. ROBINSON

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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